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REVIEWS AND NEW BOOKS

General Works, Theory and Its History

The Real Business of Living. By JAMES H. TUFTS. (New York: Henry Holt and Company. 1918. Pp. vii, 476. \$1.50.)

I believe this book should be used in every high school and in the freshman or sophomore class of every college. Not because it is merely elementary, for it is also a notable contribution to the methodology of all the social sciences. It is both an introduction and a culmination, as it were, of history, economics, law, ethics, and citizenship. The task set for himself by the author was large enough. Its execution is admirable. The book is readable, first of all, teachable and practicable in everyday life. The historical and comparative method here reaches about as ripe fruition as can be found anywhere and contributes not only to science but to common sense.

The outstanding character of the book is the use made of class struggles, class ethics, class legislation, and class ideals. It is this that lifts the subject out of individualistic ethics, law and economics, and connects the individual through his class, with the larger notions of public welfare. And here is where history, in his hands, achieves unique success. British and American history seem to be living with us in the present when we see our notions of honor, courage, liberty, equality, honesty, fairness, private property, public service, and so on, unfolding from the ideals of the warrior class, the merchant, and the industrial classes. This is because the common law, the law merchant, and equity jurisprudence are made, to a large extent, the source material of the book, and because individual and collective bargaining, rather than politics or wars, is the central theme of the *Real Business of Living*. The law is seen to emerge as the conclusions of collective bargains between king and barons, or merchants, between landlords, merchants, employers, tenants, laborers, or as the rules of the game which come to satisfy the community in individual bargains.

From this common-sense point of view, which makes negotiation and bargaining the central theme, it is a matter of course that all the attendant subjects of ethics, law, economics, government, politics, democracy, and even wars, should fall into place naturally and without metaphysical straining for ultimate or abstract principles. The unity of all the social sciences is preserved be-

cause they all radiate from the everyday negotiations that are going on individually and collectively. Economics is not production or exchange, but bargaining; ethics, religion, and law are the rules; politics and government, corporations and unions are the collective agencies; history is the living process; and the problems of today have a big equipment for their solution derived from this inheritance. It is this satisfying unity of the whole subject that makes the book so readable and teachable, besides making it an introduction and a compendium of all the social sciences.

Of course, in dealing with present-day problems the author runs into unsettled issues, where it would require many more books to discuss the pros and cons. Here the problem is left for the several special sciences, but not left in the air, for the issues are distinctly stated and the standards of judgment have already been clearly furnished for their solution. The present problems are narrowed down to "liberty," "union," and "democracy." Liberty has shifted from freedom from oppression by government to freedom through business and industry. The problems of union are the race problem, capital and labor, and conservation of natural and human resources. The problems of democracy are the checks and balances, the invisible government and the long ballot that obstruct self-government and equality. The economic problems, growing out of the industrial revolution are treated at considerable length under the head of "problems of coöperation and right in business," leading up to good faith, reliability, responsibility, public welfare, fair price, fair wage, and fair competition, and these constitute a well analyzed introduction to modern economics.

Altogether, considering the many problems of reconstruction forced upon us by the war and the evident responsibility of our educational system to prepare for them, Professor Tufts has done an important service in simplifying the elementary instruction in civics and especially in giving to economics a real place in that instruction.

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Profit and Wages. A Study in the Distribution of Income. By G. A. KLEENE. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1916. Pp. iv, 171. \$1.25.)

Thinkers approaching this little book with the conviction that there is a supreme advantage in treating the rate of interest as a